encouraged through a package of incentives to participate in power generation programmes. Resources are being mobilised from financial institutions, private investments and external assistance. World Bank's lines of credit are available for private sector wind farms, small hydro and solar photovoltaic projects.

(c) and (d) Compared to conventional power projects, capacity utilisation parameters are different for non-conventional energy based power projects which are site specific. However, in addition to incentives already available from the Centre, where applicable, other attractive fiscal and promotional incentives including wheeling, banking, third party sale and minimum buy back rate have also been suggested to the State to encourage private investment.

Solar Power Plant in Collaboration with Israel

3203. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up any solar power plant in the country in collaboration with Israel;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the above plant is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c) There is no proposal to set up a Solar Power Plant in collaboration with Israel. However, a detailed Project Report for a 30 MW Solar Thermal Power Project, near Jodhpur in Rajasthan is under preparation in association with an Israeli Company.

Popularisation of Solar Heating System

3204. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to popularise solar heating systems in different States;

(b) if so, the plan drawn up therefor; and

(c) the steps taken in that regard in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government have been popularising the solar heating systems in the country for water heating, air heating, desalination and cooking applications through various promotional incentives. Soft loans are being made available for the installation of solar heating systems through Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA). Solar thermal systems are also being popularised through various publicity measures.

(c) About 2300 square mtrs. of collector area have been installed for various solar heating systems and about 1100 solar cookers have been sold in the State of Orissa.

Production of Wind Energy in India

3205. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the potentials of wind mill energy production in India;

(b) whether any survey was conducted in this regard; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the potential areas alongwith other requirements for production of such energy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The wind power potential is estimated at about 20,000 MW in the country.

(b) Yes, Sir. A National Wind Resource Assessment Programme is being undertaken in 25 States/U.T.s. to assess the potential and identify suitable locations for wind power generation.

(c) 69 sites having annual mean wind speeds of more than 18 kmph have been identified in